IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the App ation of

Fumio NAGASAKA, Yutaka HISAMATSU and Toshiharu KATADA

Application No.: New U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP00/02095

Filed: November 27, 2000

Docket No.: 107926

For: ... DEVICE RETRIEVING APPARATUS, METHOD OF THE SAME, AND

RECORDING MEDIUM IN WHICH COMPUTER PROGRAM TO ATTAIN THE

METHOD IS RECORDED

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 5 as follows:

Claim 5, lines 1 and 2, please change "any one of claims 1 through 4," to

--claim 1,--.

Please add new claims 12 14 as follows:

--12. A device retrieving apparatus in accordance with claim 2, wherein the mapping information includes individual positions-related information with regard to mapping of positions related to individuals to the individual descriptions and device positions-related information with regard to mapping of positions related to devices to the device descriptions, and